

Mechanical Memories

Magazine

ISSUE 24

MAY 2008



Mechanical Memories Magazine

Mechanical Memories Magazine is a subscriber magazine published monthly, except August. When subscribing, please forward your **Name, Address and Telephone number** to the address below and make cheques payable to: Mechanical Memories Magazine.

You may also pay online at: www.pennymachines.co.uk/MMM.htm

Annual Subscription (11 issues)

UK £22 inc.UK postage (£23 by Paypal)
Europe £29 inc. airmail
Rest of the world £36 inc. airmail

Advertising Rates

See page 24
for full details of rates, plus generous discounts

Lineage ads., For sale or Wanted, are free to subscribers.

Published by: Antique Automatic Amusements
Editor: Jerry Chattenton

10 Bedford Road
Dartford DA1 1SR
☎ 07710 285360

e-mail jerry.mmm@tiscali.co.uk
www.pennymachines.co.uk/MMM.htm

Copyright: This magazine, or any part thereof, may not be copied or reproduced by any means whatsoever without the prior written consent of the publisher. All rights reserved. ©Jerry Chattenton 2008

Editorial

Hello again. Now, the big news this month should be the Sarratt auction, and indeed it is – but for the wrong reason. Sadly, I’m afraid that Sunday 27th April probably marks the end of an era, as I really cannot see that it is viable to run auctions on a regular basis. It was always intended that these events should be very much a social occasion, with the auction forming the focus, and I had hoped that we could continue to run them biannually, but frankly, there just isn’t sufficient interest. With just a hundred and thirty lots, only ninety of which were listed in the catalogue, attendance was significantly lower this time, with many familiar faces missing. Although a higher percentage of lots sold, compared with our previous auctions, the commission raised was wholly inadequate; quite simply, the meagre income from these events just doesn’t warrant the hard work that goes into organising them.

I believe there is another threat to these events in the future: the obscene cost of petrol, and particularly diesel. At the time of writing, diesel is now £1.20 a litre where I live, and even higher in other, particularly rural areas; no doubt it will have gone up even more by the time you get to read this! (For the benefit of those Americans reading this, I know you’re all resentful at paying three and a half dollars a gallon or what ever it is over there.....try living here, we’re paying over \$10 a gallon). Because ours is a minority interest and we’re dispersed all over the country, we will always have to rely on a good number of people travelling long distances, regardless of where we hold an event, and I suspect the high cost of fuel will increasingly deter many from travelling these long distances.

And it gets worse! (from my point of view, anyway). At the time of writing, forty subscriptions to this magazine have not been renewed, which could have serious consequences for it’s future. Just as I am not prepared to organise events for nothing, there is a limit to how much time I can commit to the magazine, from which I earn very little. I’ve no intention of folding the mag., but the situation really must improve. There are a number of ways you can help: First, and most obvious, renew your subscription when it’s due. Second – please stop sharing. I know there are many reading this, who then pass it on to someone else. Are they really so hard-up that they cannot afford a meagre £22 for their own subscription? Third – write an article for the magazine, which will take a little of the pressure off me.

Anyway, that’s enough doom and gloom for now

All the best

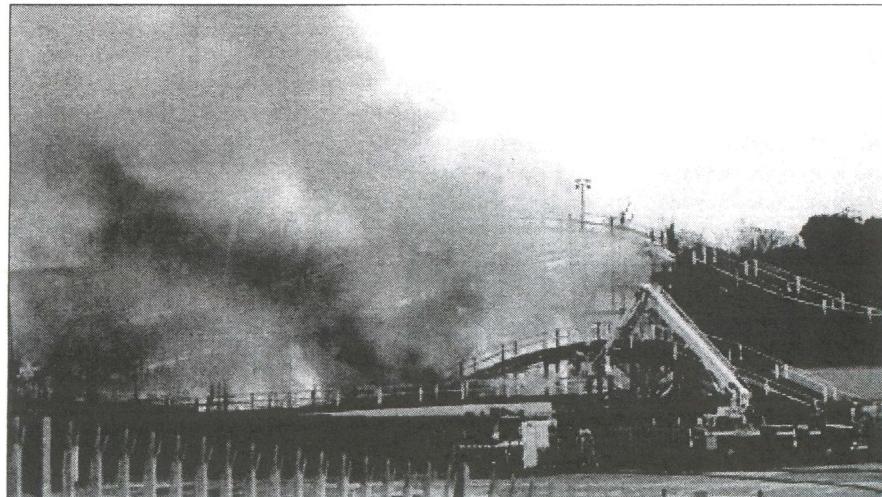
Jerry

News and Coming Events

Scenic Railway Fire

I have mentioned in these pages, on several occasions, my fond childhood memories of the Kursaal amusement park in Southend, and Dreamland in Margate. Sadly, the Kursaal is gone forever, but there is still a glimmer of hope that Dreamland may be saved from the developers, in one form or another. Since being purchased by the current owner (who would dearly love to completely flatten the site), Dreamland continued to operate on a much reduced scale, but was completely closed throughout last year. The one thing that has saved Dreamland so far, is it's historic Scenic Railway, which was awarded Grade II listed status in 2003. Built in 1920, Dreamland's Scenic Railway is the oldest surviving roller coaster in this country, and second only in the world.

At some point during the course of this year, I had intended to start a monthly report on the progress of the 'Save Dreamland Campaign', and it is sadly ironic that I must first report a tragic fire that occurred on 7th April, which destroyed much of the Scenic Railway. I understand that police investigators suspect arson, although to date I have no further information. The council has pledged that it will ensure the owners make the required repairs to the structure, so I live in hope that I will once again have the opportunity to ride this historic roller coaster.



Firefighters battling the blaze that almost totally destroyed the Scenic Railway.

Places to Visit

Over the last couple of years, I've featured most of the larger venues in this country where visitors can play on vintage penny slot machines. Over the next couple of weeks, I shall compile a thread in the MMM forum on the pennymachines website, where I shall post all of the pictures previously published in this magazine. The first venue I featured was Steve Maxted's fantastic collection at Rye, way back in issue 2 – and the pictures were pretty awful! (I had some serious computer problems at that time), so this new thread will give you the opportunity to view better quality pictures, and in colour. In addition, as there is not the same limitation on space, I shall be able to post additional pictures that were not originally published in the magazine.

Auction News

I recently received a letter from Southern Counties Auctioneers, confirming what many of us had suspected – that their auction of vintage slot machines, on 18th May has been cancelled due to lack of entries. In truth, their auction last year was only possible due to a large consignment of machines from an ex operator. This rather reinforces the view held by many of us that future auctions will only be viable with a significant consignment of machines from one or more sources, rather than relying on single entries from many collectors.

Dates for your diary

Bonhams Mechanical Music & Collectables Sale 13th May
Knowle, Nr Coventry

Great Dorset Steam Fair 27th – 31st August
Tarrant Hinton, Dorset

Jukebox Madness 25th & 26th October
Kempton Park racecourse

Chicagoland Show 14th – 16th November
Illinois, USA

Bonhams Fine Mechanical Music Sale 18th November
Knightsbridge

Vintage Slot Collecting – The Future?

Back in issue 19, following the Coventry auction, I made the following comment:

'There are no doubt various economic reasons for the apparent reluctance to spend money, but I think there are two fundamental problems: First, those of us who have been collecting for some time now have all the allwins and bandits we want. Second, and perhaps more importantly, there are not enough newcomers joining us. Anyway, I shall discuss this further next month.'

Well, I didn't get to comment further, as my article on mutoscopes rather took over the January magazine. This is perhaps not a bad thing, as I would probably have been more optimistic than I am now. Frankly, I think we're in dire straits, and the situation isn't likely to improve. The fundamental problem is the lack of newcomers, without whom the supply & demand chain falls apart. Let's consider the three aspects of collecting:

Buying

At the risk of stating the bleedin' obvious, in order to start a collection, you have to buy machines, and I'm sure my own experience in the early days was much the same as others. My first machine wasn't a Bird of Paradise Rolatop, it was a Sega Mad Money (front opening) bandit; something I would not allow space in the house now! The ensuing years were spent frantically buying anything with a coin entry, including Olly Whales allwins, which I now loath. In more recent years, my buying has slowed dramatically, as I now own many of the machines for which I spent so many years searching. Although there are still machines on my wants list, they become available far less often than the allwins and bandits I was buying fifteen years ago.

Owning

The length of time we keep a machine tends to be directly proportional to its value and desirability. So the bandits and allwins at the 'lower end' tend to get sold-on quite quickly, in order to finance something better, which may later be sold in favour of something even grander. In my own case (and I'm sure the same applies for others), my hobby has been largely self-financing for many years; selling machines to buy others, often selling two or more machines to buy one. My situation is fairly unique though, as I do still buy machines to operate, which tend to be at the lower end.

Selling

As I've just stated, we tend to sell machines in order to finance others (or just to make more room in the house)! Unfortunately, this is where the supply & demand thing has failed. With the lack of new collectors, there is simply not the demand for the lower end machines, and as a result prices have fallen. Supply is beginning to slow too, as many collectors who have machines to sell will not do so for fear of losing money. I've heard the following so many times: '*I'm hanging on to my machines till prices go up*' – well, don't hold yer breath, 'cos it ain't gonna happen! This is as good as it gets, and I believe prices will only go in one direction in the long term (somewhere between fall and plummet). There are those, of course, who have only bought machines with a view to making a profit, and now moan because they're feeling a burning sensation in their fingers! Frankly, I have little sympathy – it's not what collecting is about.

So does the value of a machine matter? Well, speaking personally, whenever I've bought a machine in the past, I've done so because I wanted the machine, so I've paid what I had to at that time. If it's potentially worth less now, so what? I've had the pleasure of owning that machine, so is it reasonable to expect to have had that pleasure free of charge when I eventually sell the machine? And let's not forget that all things are relative. Yes, if I were to sell any particular machine, I may get less than I had originally paid, but I'd probably spend the money on another, which would also cost less than I should have expected a few years ago.

On a more positive note, lower prices should be more attractive to new collectors, who may have been a little daunted by the prices we were paying a few years ago; in truth, we were probably paying too much. So why are we not attracting sufficient numbers of newcomers? The widely held belief is that we collect vintage machines through nostalgia; we remember playing the machines in our younger years and now have a desire to collect and own them. As we now have a generation of adults who don't remember the machines, they would have no desire to collect them. In my view, although there is much truth in this, I believe the reason many of us collect is far more complex. I fondly remember playing the Streets rifle-range on the sun deck at Margate, every time I visited during my childhood (and into my '30s), but I don't own one – they're too bloody big. On the other hand, my Payramid is one of my favourite machines, but I don't remember ever playing on one or even seeing one till I started collecting.

One thing is certain: if we can't attract newcomers, our hobby will continue to decline. Without doubt, we need greater public awareness, but how do we spread the word about something with which half the population is totally unfamiliar? Certainly, when the public (particularly children) are introduced to vintage machines, there is genuine interest, as I've witnessed in my arcade at Brighton. Whether this interest is sufficient to drive younger people to collect, or even have a desire to own just one machine, is another matter.

Operating Vintage Slots

By Clive Baker

Many people, including the editor of this excellent magazine, often deliberate over the shortage of new collectors and the consequences for the vintage slot collecting community in the future. All of the theories, explanations and conclusions are valid, however, I would point out one basic fact: all collectors enjoyed playing vintage (ish) amusement machines in their formative years. This has kindled a desire to own similar machines when they can afford to relive their misspent youth.

Steve Hunt recalled how he was inspired when he visited the National Museum of Penny Slot Machines on the Palace pier in 1980. He looked around and decided "what a great idea – I could do this." If we had more penny slot museums where youngsters can enjoy playing on the old machines, we might get more collectors. There were hundreds of arcades operating mechanical machines back in the sixties, but now we have a less than magnificent eight, viz: Wookey Hole, Brighton, Southport, Great Yarmouth, Bridlington, Cheshire Candle Workshops, plus Carters' and Morley's travelling arcades (apologies for not mentioning the smaller ones).

To get more collectors, we need more people playing on vintage machines, which means more sites where they can play on them. If you have the machines, the easiest way to start operating is how John Hayward and I began: transport them in the back of the car, with a stall on the roof rack. You've probably thought about it; why not have a go? If you find a visitor attraction that could benefit from a share of the income from your machines (or a rent), you'll have a pocket money sideline, but don't think you'll ever get rich by operating vintage machines. If you do find a way, you're a better man (or woman) than I, or anyone else whose tried it over the last thirty years for that matter.

If you have a problem with not owning all the right machines for a particular venue, I may be able to help. I have some site tested machines not at present in use, which you could rent on a short or longer term. If you want any advice on operating vintage penny slot machines, please contact me on 01489 784038

Clive Baker

Editor's Response

Well, it's certainly true that we need to create more public awareness, and what better way is there to introduce the public to vintage machines, than to get them playing on them. Clive and I certainly aren't afraid of the competition (as long as you stay away from Brighton and Southport). I suspect there are a few collectors who have considered operating machines in one form or another, so here are a few tips. You will first need to consider the site; you basically have three options.

Option one: Travelling. As Clive has stated, in it's simplest form, this could be taking a few machines on a small stall to local shows. All you will need are some machines and a stall. Depending on the number of machines you wish to use, a large car or small van may be adequate for transport. At the other extreme, you could have a hundred machines housed in a huge trailer, towed by a Scammell (like Carters). I'd go with the former to start. Ground rent is normally paid on a shares basis, so you will pay a percentage of whatever you take. Your biggest expense will be public liability insurance, which you must have.

Option two: Static. This option perhaps comes with the most risk. You will need suitable premises, for which you will have to pay rent, and if there is a lease involved you will be committed for the term of the lease. Suitable premises at an ideal location could be difficult to find – and expensive, plus you will have additional costs such as business rates and electricity. Once again, you must have liability insurance, and I'd advise risk on your machines. As a guide, my combined insurance for Brighton is a little less than £1200 a year – not cheap! And don't forget that if you have a crap day, or week, or year, you'll still have to pay the bills. However, this is probably the most lucrative option, if you get the right premises at a good location (and you get good weather all year)!

Option three: Tourist attraction. Established attractions, museums etc. can be ideal sites for vintage machines. Over the years, I've had various machines on a number of sites, and if you get it right your machines could earn you some useful dosh, with little work and no outlay (although you may still need liability insurance, depending on what arrangement you can agree with the site). I strongly advice you operate on new money – 10p for repeat play machines such as allwins, and 20p for machines such as working models, laughing sailor etc. (although you may even get away with 50p). Depending on site conditions and how many machines you intend to operate, you may need a change machine. I have a policy of NEVER leaving keys on site – I always empty the machines myself, so you will only be able to operate on a site within reasonable travelling distance. Always operate on 50/50 shares – if a potential site tries to offer you less favourable terms, use this logical argument: *My machines won't earn any money without your site, and your site won't earn the extra income without my machines.....50/50.*

Vintage Slots at Swanage

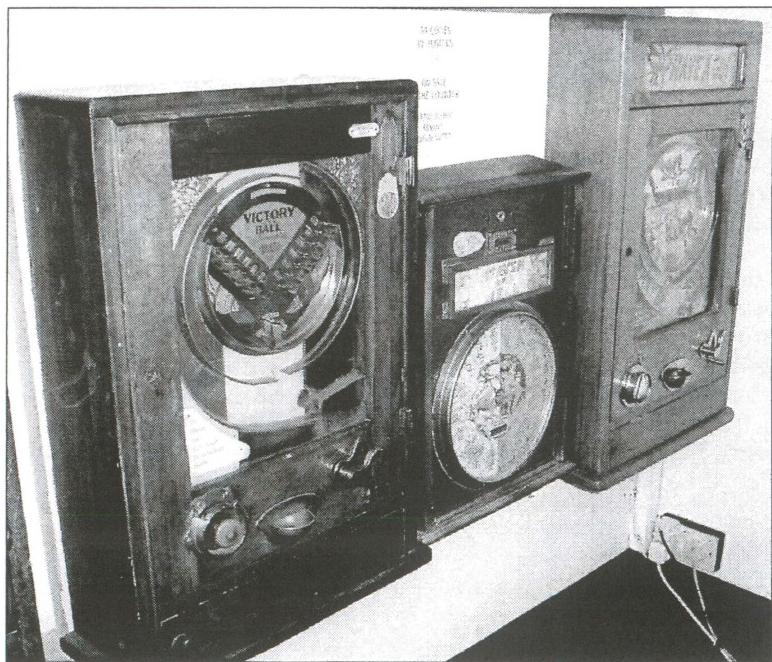
Over the past couple of years, I've featured most of the larger collections of vintage penny slot machines on public display, including my own at Brighton and Clive Baker's at Southport. In addition to Southport, Clive has many other machines on various other sites, a small number of which can be found on Swanage pier, Dorset. I last visited Swanage three or four years ago, when Sharron and I were on holiday in the New Forest. We decided to spend at least one day at the seaside, so I chose this little seaside town, as I had fond memories from my childhood.....

My parents took my sister and me on holiday there in the early 1960s, when I was aged just five (well, nearly six). My dad didn't drive at that time, so the first short leg of the journey was by train from Dartford to Charring Cross. We were then taken by cab to Paddington, and this is where my holiday began. Paddington Station, that monumental testament to Victorian railway engineering, is of course the London terminus of what was the Great Western Railway, and it was in this wondrous palace of brick, iron and glass that I encountered the greatest delight my small eyes had ever seen – a steam railway locomotive! I was, of course, used to travelling by train, but Southern region (which served Kent) was electrified before the war, so the sight of those magnificent locomotives for the first time was truly awesome to a small boy. Whoever coined the phrase 'halcyon days' must have been standing on a platform at Paddington station at the time!

These were the days when the sun shone every day in summer, particularly when a small boy was on holiday! I have many happy memories of that week in Swanage, and still have a crystal-clear vision of the dodgems on the seafront. I particularly remember the smell of burning steel from the wipers on the end of the dodgem poles, making contact with the overhead nets – why don't dodgems smell like that anymore? We stayed in a small family run hotel, about which I can remember very little, apart from the very friendly resident black Labrador called Bruce, and a large breakfast gong situated at the bottom of the stairs in the main hall. One morning, for reasons known only to myself, I got up at 5.00 am and tried out the gong – much to the amusement of all the other guests, no doubt.....I don't know why, but we never returned.

Anyway, back to the machines. Clive has about a dozen machines here, including several rare examples. Although mostly wall machines, there is an Exhibit Supply Co. Novelty Merchantman crane and a very rare Bryans Penny-Go-Round, probably the only one operating in the country (or world). Wall machines worthy of note include: Oliver Whales WWII Victory Ball allwin; Bolland 'Iron Clad' Heaven and Hell fortune teller; Bussoz 'Glamour Girl', plus an assortment of more common machines, including several allwins and a Bryans Bullion.

Although this small collection perhaps doesn't warrant a three hundred mile round trip, Swanage is a very pleasant family day out if you're in the area. And be sure to make time to take a trip on the Swanage railway too.....steam, of course.



Fairground and Arcade Artwork & Signs

By Steve Maxted

Some time ago, I bought three, original enamel signs, painted and used by Carters Steam Fairs for their early arcade. These particular ones were metal. I recently installed them in my old penny arcade of working models and games, at Rye. I was so pleased with them that I knew I would like more, but they don't come up that often, particularly with the right wording.

My problem was solved when I came across a brilliant fairground type artist who lives not far away at Deal in Kent. His name is Eugene Sloan and, after talking to him, I discovered that he has, in the past, painted anything from whole fairground rides, showman's wagons, canal boats, to pub signs and, of course, traditional arcade signs with styles ranging from the Victorian to the 50's. He has recently been having a break from this kind of work, but I asked him if he would mind painting five signs for my penny arcade at Rye. He enthusiastically agreed. We met to talk about the wording etc. and to my amazement; he completed my signs in just over two weeks. To say that I am pleased is an understatement.

As I was born nearly opposite the West Pier in Brighton, and spent a lot of my childhood time on it, I commissioned a special sign with a picture of the pier incorporated. You can see by the photograph that Eugene (who is holding the sign), has made a superb job of it. Thanks Eugene. Now that I have got him painting again, he is going to continue and is happy to talk to anyone wanting arcade signs etc. As far as I am concerned, his work is on a par with some of the better known fairground artists such as Fred Fowle. He uses traditional showman's enamels and varnishes so the result is authentic. If you would like to contact him, Eugene's number is 01304 374346, email: bosunfreight67@aol.com. I am sure there must be many people like myself, who would like a beautifully painted wooden sign for their home or arcade. Eugene particularly likes painting signs from the 50's rock' n roll era, with hot rods etc., but he can do anything you ask.

Steve Maxted



Sarratt 08

Despite significantly fewer lots entered in the auction than expected, I think most who attended enjoyed the day, although I was disappointed that fewer attended this time. I guess some may have been put off by the low number of lots listed in the catalogue (about ninety), although we did actually end up with a hundred and thirty. Nonetheless, it was good to be on familiar ground, and I'm sure all are agreed that Sarratt is an ideal venue. The weather wasn't quite as kind to us as last year, but although we did get heavy rain for a while, it was nowhere near as bad as had been forecast.

As I've already stated earlier, the number of lots entered in the auction was very disappointing, and was no doubt the major factor for a lower attendance than last year, although there were several well known faces who I knew would not be attending, due to other commitments. On a more positive note though, a much higher percentage of lots sold, compared with our previous auctions, which I suspect was due to there being less choice. A good number of machines sold for quite respectable money too; I was certainly very happy with the prices I got for the machines I entered.

The selection of allwins on offer was particularly low; I don't think we even had a dozen! However, there were a few interesting machines, including a really nice Saxony ten cup on halfpenny play, for which I got someone to bid on my behalf – sadly (for me), it went for more than I had anticipated, selling at £420. To contrast, a nice R&W What's My Line, in an unusually attractive case, sold quite cheaply for £360.



Bandit numbers were a little higher though, with several 'bargain basement' machines selling for £50 upward. Unfortunately, there were no real 'star' lots this time, and the highest selling machine was the Mills Poinsettia, which made £620 – which I thought was a very good price, considering there has been little interest in the older goose-neck machines in recent years.



Fewer Bryans machines were on offer this time, which I thought a little surprising given that Bryans are about the only machines guaranteed to fetch good money. And for the first time in many years, not a single Elevenses was available (one was entered, but the vendor was unable to attend). A really nice early Pilwin Play made £850 and a Bullion on new penny play made £520 – which I think may be a record for a Bullion on 1p. In contrast, the Worlborl on old penny play made £900, which seemed a bit low.

As at our previous events, a good selection of spares and paperwork was on offer, although some of the bandit spares didn't seem to be selling as well as previously. Once again, this was no doubt due to the low attendance, with a couple of the well known 'bandit men' not being present.

Above: Lot 85, Mills Poinsettia, which sold well at £620

Opposite page: Lot 31, Ruffler & Walker What's my Line, which made £360

So, a day of contrasts. Only half the number of lots we had on offer at Coventry in November, with a fairly poor attendance. On the other hand, a good percentage of lots sold, with many realising good prices. As I stated earlier, we probably had too much at Coventry, so I guess we need to strike a balance if we hold another auction in the future.

And finally, many thanks to all those who offered their assistance on the day, particularly Doff and Sharron (who do not necessarily share our interest in vintage slots) and to Brenda for her sterling work flogging catalogues and collecting magazine subs.

Here are some of the prices realised in the auction. The full list will be available in the **Arena** on the pennymachines website.

Lot	Description	Price
1	300 Queen Victoria pennies.	7
2	300 old pennies, all sorted – no thin or bent coins.	9
3	100 sixpences.	6
28	Nice vintage copper-plated original USA Ford gumball machine. 1c play, in lovely condition, with lock and key.	40
29	Two column vintage USA stick-gum vender. In clean & excellent condition, with key.	20
30	Bryans Bullion, working with both keys.	520
31	Ruffler & Walker allwin 'What's My Line' Nice machine, with key and cash box.	360
33	Rare Bryans Worl Borl, working on old penny play.	900
38	Vintage Comic postcards. Used and unused. Over 30 in total.	14
39	Gruesome handmade battery operated automata, featuring a beheading!	55
43	Aristocrat Olympic Take Ten one-armed bandit, on 6d play. Some 5/- tokens included in payout tube.	80
44	Mills Hi-top, in working order on 6d play.	200
45	Sega Diamond 3 Star one-armed bandit. All original condition, working with keys.	280
53	WWII Spitfire allwin.	530
55	Repro Rolatop, working on 6d play.	300
56	Sega Belair one-armed bandit, on 1p play.	40
57	Win a Spangles allwin.	220
58	Large speaker box from a Dodgem track.	20
59	Aristocrat one-armed bandit.	50

62	Oliver Whales Gypsy fortune teller wall machine. In good working order, on 1d play, with keys.	400
63	Cromptons Tip-em-off, on old penny play. In rare black glitter case, with key.	380
64	Mills counter-top bagatelle game, on 1d play. In good working order, with key.	300
65	Early Bryans Pilwin Play on 1d play. Fully restored, all original.	850
69	Rare Mills hi-top original flyer.	5
70	2 original Sega flyers.	4
71	Chicago automatics price list.	9
80	Jubilee Riviera one-armed bandit fruit machine. Refurbished by Henry Powell, on 10p play. In good working order, with keys.	180
81	As above, but 'OXO'	180
84	Mills Hi-top one-armed bandit. Working on 1d play, with key.	260
85	Mills Poinsettia one-armed bandit, on 6d play. In good working order, with jackpot and key.	620
87	'The Little Stockbroker', early cast iron machine.	350
88	Reserve allwin playfield, with metal back.	30
89	Electric shock coil assembly. Could be used for an electric shock machine.	10
90	Badge vending machine.	20
91	Kraft Roto Fruit, electromechanical wall machine. Working on old penny play. Electrics refurbished By Carl Sheiferstein a couple of years ago.	150
95	Bryans Bullion, on 1p play. In home made case.	280
96	Early allwin, in very good working order, on halfpenny play.	420
97	Ruffler & Walker Fill Em Up allwin.	320
99	Sega Belair one-armed bandit, on 1p play.	70
100	Mills Gold Rush one-armed bandit, on 6d play.	60
101	Sega Belair one-armed bandit, on 1p play.	80
102	Treasure Cave E/M wall machine.	45
103	Bandit case.	90
109	Bandit table.	20
110	Bandit table.	22
111	Bandit table.	22
128	Jennings reel bundle.	25
129	Collection of Mechanical Memories Magazines.	22

Genco Punch-a-Ball

By Johnny Burley

This non coin-operated countertop trade stimulator, of small dimensions, is perhaps quite rare. It was made by Genco, of Chicago USA, in the late 1930s – a company better known for it's manufacture of pinball and large arcade machines. This compact little earner would have stood on a countertop top of the local bar, diner, candy store, arcade or hardware store.

The machine contains around five hundred small silver balls, with just a few coloured balls amongst them, each denoting a different score. The player would make a predetermined payment to the proprietor for how many balls he wished to play. The balls are then released one at a time by a sprung plunger on the side of the machine, where they fall into a gauge meter. When the meter is full, the balls are released into a tray in the bottom of the machine, by the turn of a key on the back, ready for the next line of balls. A prize score is only registered on the appearance of a coloured ball.

Apart from it's locking key, this machine has no security fixtures, so one can only assume how honest folk were back then – it's doubtful it would have remained in it's countertop position in this day and age!



Back Issues

I announced last month that, due to constant demand, I would be having small numbers of some of the past issues of the magazine reprinted in time to be available at the Sarratt auction. Unfortunately, I was unable to get it all done in time for the auction. However, all back issues are now available, and the good news is that the reprints were not quite as expensive as I thought they would be.

So back issues are now available at the following rates:

Volume 1, April 06 – March 07 (11 issues) £15
Volume 2, April 07 – March 08 (11 issues) £15

Individual issues £1.50

(all prices include UK postage)

Please make cheques payable to
Mechanical Memories Magazine

Post to:
Jerry Chattenton
10 Bedford Road
Dartford DA1 1SR

Lineage ads. are free to subscribers and will run for two issues, unless you instruct me otherwise. Please ensure I have your ads. by the 20th of the month for inclusion in the next month's issue. Remember to include your telephone number and the area where you live. Post or e-mail to the address on page 2

For Sale

Bryans 12 Win Clock, oak case, in perfect working order and excellent condition. With cash tin, lock & keys and original paint on mechanism. £550

Chris 01483 823203 (Surrey)

For Sale

Allwin cabinet made in oak some years back but never used. Nice brass hinges but no lock. £95 plus postage.

Cliff 01624 878311

Email cliff@manx.net for photos

For Sale

Large Wonders 24 cup allwin, probably one of the best I have seen, lovely case. Works perfectly on old penny play. All it needs is two keys cut – both doors are open with locks in situ. Will exchange for a BMCo allwin or for sale at £480

Paul 01278 782714 (Somerset)

Email for pictures

paul.vickers@hotmail.co.uk

Pinball Machines bought and sold

Dead or Alive!

Call Gazza 07887 926601 (Essex)

Wanted

Derby Day, 1960s electro-mechanical wall machine by Ruffler & Walker. Must be complete and in good working order.

Rob. 01507 473639

Email: robert_rowland2001@yahoo.co.uk

Wanted

Wiring diagram and/or any information on 'Rotofruit' e/m wall machine.

Tony 01889 565448

Wanted

Bollands working models wanted.

Les 07905 372227 evenings

Wanted

Circle Skill wall machine, with coin return

John 01273 608620 (Brighton)

Wanted

Bagatelles, unusual or with nice graphics. Also old pre 1930s games, I.E. indoor, pub, board games etc.

Ivan 01273 401144

For Sale

Bellfruit Cascade wall machine, in good working order, on new penny play. No lock and key. £170

David 01223 312057 (Cambridge)

Still Wanted

Top Flash for Oliver Whales Win an Aero Choc allwin. Will pay good price.

Bill 01642 710834 (Middlesbrough)

For Sale

'Hi-Ball' large floor standing 1930s arcade machine by Exhibit Supply Co. In good working order, on 1d play. £400

John 01273 608620 (Brighton)

For Sale

Some Mills and Jennings repro reel strips left. £10 per set
Some original award cards – enquire.
Mills 5c and 25c original sets of payout slides. £30 per set

For Sale

New old stock, Bryans square Yale locks, with two keys. £10 each, plus £2 p&p

Tony 07974 460742 (Essex)
or email vanessa.raye@tesco.net

For Sale

Bryans Clock Face and Instruction Cards. For either 6 win or 12 win. Perfect copies. Laminated or paper. £12 inc. UK postage. Topflashes for the following O. Whales Allwins: Double Six; Have a Go; Easy Perm; Playball; Each Way. Perfect copies. Laminated. £12 inc. UK postage.

Charlie 07711 978806 (Essex)

For Sale

Radial pin cam locks. 30mm barrel length, 19mm (3/4") diameter. High quality, high security. Supplied with two keys. Ideal for Bandits, Jukeboxes, Pinballs etc.

£6 each, 2 for £10 inc. U.K. p&p

Cheques to:

Jerry Chattenton
10 Bedford Road, Dartford DA1 1SR

For Sale

Data East pinball parts
Most items available

Check out website
www.gazzaspinballs.co.uk

Peter 01304 822485 (Kent)

For Sale

Original Clown Tokens
Brass or Silver
£25 per 100, inc. p&p

Tony 01622 820263

The Mutoscope Man

Large range of mutoscope parts available.
Part or total restorations undertaken.

John Hayward
01273 608620 (Brighton)

Wanted

**Seaside
Saucy Postcards**

**Individual cards
or collections**

Jerry 07710 285360

Advertising rates

The following rates include basic typesetting.
Advertisers' pre-prepared artwork may be emailed in jpeg format.

Subscribers:

Full page £25
Half page £15
Quarter page £10

Pre-paid discount rate for one year (11 issues)

Full page £175
Half page £125
Quarter page £75

Lineage ads. are free to subscribers

Non subscribers:

Full page £35
Half page £25
Quarter page £15

Pre-paid discount rate for one year (11 issues)

Full page £200
Half page £150
Quarter page £100

Lineage ads. are not available to non subscribers

Large range of allwin spares available

email your requirements to Jez Darvill
Retreeva@ntlworld.com

Or call 020 8394 1988 evenings

Fortune Teller Cards

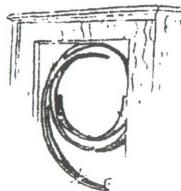
Criss-cross cards
typed or hand written, various types.

Small Argyll type
for drawer puller wall machines.
Future husband, Career, Baby etc.
Love letter, Palmistry, Fortune
Full range.

Green ray cards
hand written in green ink.

All printed on very thick card – as per originals. Orders for small or large quantities welcome.

Phone for details.
Clive Baker 01489 784038



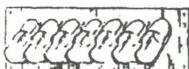
ALLWIN TRACK

Grooved & chromed just like the original.

Inner with flat & nipple
17½" inside length
Middle 18" inside length
Outer 40" inside length

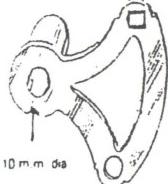


Win Tabs. Red printed on Silver foil sticky backed 12 on a sheet

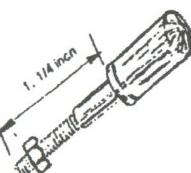


CHROMED 7 ball win gallery. 6 x 1.9/16

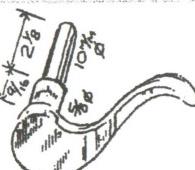
CHROMED TRIGGER FRONT



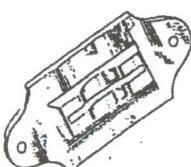
10 mm dia



CHROMED THUMB STOP



TRIGGER



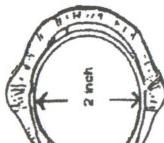
COIN SLOT
to suit 2p but can
be filed bigger

CHROMED PAYOUT BOWL

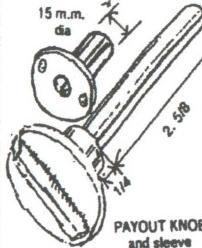


2.5 inch dia cup 2 x 0.25 inch fixing squares at 3.75 inch centres.

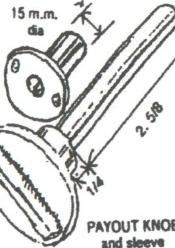
CHROMED KNOB SHIELD



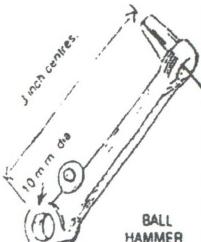
2 x tapped M5 fixing holes on
extended nipples 2.1/2" centres.



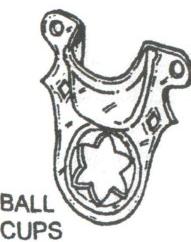
CHROMED ARROWS
Reversible.



PAYOUT KNOB
and sleeve



SPANDRELLS



BALL
CUPS

ALLWIN SPARES

From Stock

Nostalgic Machines Ltd.
P.O. Box 32, Wombourne,
South Staffs WV5 8YS
Tel / Fax 01902 897879

PRICE LIST

N01 Win Tabs (12 per sheet) £15.25

N02 Ball Gallery £12.55

N03 Thumb Stop £6.25

N04 Coin Slot (2p)
£9.25

N05 Trigger Front £9.25

N06 Trigger £12.55

N07 Payout Arrow
£2.55

N08 Payout Bowl &
Surround £15.55

N09 Payout Knob
Shield £9.95

N10 Payout Knob &
Sleeve £11.95

N11 Ball Hammer £4.95

N12 Ball Cups
1-5 £9.99 each
6-10 £7.99 each
11+ £5.99 each

N13 Spandrells £14.99

N14 Allwin Track
inner £19.00
middle £19.00
outer £23.50
set of 3 £47.00

All prices include
VAT @ 17.5% and P&P.
Discount for quantity
orders - please ring.

Recycled Oak Free to Genuine Collectors!

Do you need oak for your allwin?
Cash door, top, bottom, whole case?
Then I can help you!

I have a good selection of dark oak boards (prepared)
recycled from old tables, cupboards etc.,
which I can supply free to genuine enthusiasts.
No postage on this please – for collection only.

I am in the Southwest – Junction 22, M5
So just give me a call, and I shall be glad to help.

Paul 01278 782714

For Sale

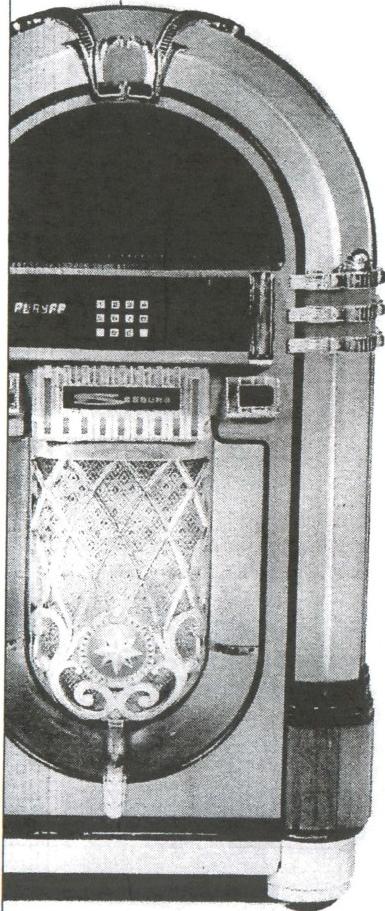
Auction Catalogues

for the Nic Costa collection of amusement machines,
held on 19th January 2006 at Christies, South Kensington.
147 lots, most illustrated
and sale results included on a separate sheet.

Rare to find now, never to be reprinted. Mint condition.

Price each: £10 including p&p to UK
£12 including p&p rest of the world

Laurence 07967 552 608



Mechanical Music at Bonhams Knightsbridge & Knowle

We are currently inviting entries for our forthcoming sales for September and November. For more information please contact:

Laurence Fisher
+44 (0) 8700 273 633
Laurence.fisher@bonhams.com

Catalogue
+44 (0) 1666 502 200
subscriptions@bonhams.com

Illustrated:
A Seeburg Type CD-1281 jukebox
late 20th Century,
Estimate: £1,000 - 1,500
To be offered in Knowle on Tuesday 13 May along
with two other jukeboxes, various one-armed
bandits, wall machines and a rare 'Aunt Sally'.

Bonhams
Montpelier Street
London SW7 1HH
+44 (0) 20 7393 3900
+44 (0) 20 7393 3905 fax
www.bonhams.com

London · New York · Paris · San Francisco · Los Angeles · Hong Kong · Melbourne · Dubai

Book Shop

Collector's Guide to Vintage Coin Machines

(2nd edition with revised priceguide) by Dick Bueschel.

Chapters on scales, vending, arcade, slots, jukeboxes, pins and stimulators. Attractive book, well researched and illustrated, featuring 700 machines all in colour.

Hardback, 220 pages. **Price: £32.40**

Vintage Trade Stimulators and Counter Games by Dick Bueschel.

Detailed descriptions of the machines, dates, manufacturer production data, plus over 800 pictures, a price guide and a wealth of historical context, will make you an instant expert on these previously under-represented coin-ops.

Hardback, 264 pages, 792 colour, 24 b/w photos. **Price: £29.50**

Collector's Treasury of Antique Slot Machines from Contemporary Advertising (1925-1950) by Peter Bach.

This fat volume makes an excellent collector's source book. It is packed with hundreds of pictorial slot machine advertisements reproduced from The Billboard (the foremost American weekly trade paper) from 1920-1950 of one arm bandits, gambling machines, console machines, trade stimulators, pinball machines, novelty vending machines, etc.

Hardback, 479 pages, b/w. **Price: £25**

Slot Machines of Yesteryear - Mills of the Thirties Operator's Companion.

The spirit of the Mills Novelty Company in the hectic Thirties is conveyed in their product brochures, service literature, and in editorial matter from Spinning Reels (the company's own trade journal), together with press releases, promotional literature, advertising flyers etc. in The Billboard trade magazine. Excellent source book.

Hardback, 192 pages, b/w. **Price: £15**

Slot Machines of Yesteryear - Mills of the Forties Operator's Companion.

A source book reproducing a wealth of diverse material from the period: service manuals, parts lists, press releases, promotional literature, advertising flyers etc. tracing the progress of Mills Novelty Company's machines during the WWII-interrupted decade of the Forties. Hardback, 192 pages, b/w. **Price: £15**

Slot Machines of Yesteryear - Watling Operator's Companion.

This volume captures Watling Manufacturing Company's full range from scales to bandits in catalogues, brochures, line folders, broadsides and service data, original patent and mock-up photos of the ROL-A-TOR line, artists' preparatory airbrush renderings for advertising and promotional material and Watling family photos and correspondence. Plenty of legendary anecdotes and well-informed context in the accompanying commentary. Hardback, 192 pages, b/w. **Price: £15**

The Complete Pinball Book –

Collecting the Game and it's History (with values) by Marco Rossignoli

Second edition with price guide. The biggest and best single volume on the subject to date, it covers the whole topic from the '30s to the '90s in minute detail, with a listing of over 3000 games and over 900 colour photographs, including technical close-ups, flyers and rare pictures. Hardback, 320 pages, colour. **Price: £49**

The Pinball Compendium: 1930s – 1960s by Michael Shalhoub

Another great pinball book from Schiffer. Arranged chronologically, with good coverage of the early days and into the sixties. Hundreds of machines, many pictured for the first time with full descriptions of game features, historical notes, price guide. Hardback, 240 pages, all colour. **Price: £49.50**

The Pinball Compendium: 1970 – 1981 by Michael Shalhoub

Companion volume to the above, covering the most prolific era in pinball history.

Hundreds of machines by Gottlieb, Williams, Bally, Chicago Coin and other manufacturers are showcased, many for the first time in print. Exclusive interviews with the designers and artists, with a listing of values for each machine. Hardback, 240 pages, 800 colour and 30 b/w photos. **Price: £49.50**

Pinball Memories: Forty Years of Fun 1958 –1998 by Marco Rossignoli

Another superb book by the author of The Complete Pinball Book. This visual chronicle, with examples from the game's beginnings to the present day, devotes a separate chapter to fifty fascinating games, describing their features, cultural influences, design and artistic trends, historical connections and unique game rules. There is also a guide to values. Hardback, 273 pages, over 800 colour pictures. **Price: £49**

Pinball Snapshots – Air Aces to Xenon by Rossignoli and McGuiness

This nicely illustrated full-colour companion volume to Pinball Memories profiles 50 pinballs from the 1930s – 2000, in alphabetically arranged chapters with game rules, historical information, trivia, designer and artist commentaries etc., plus a final Gallery photos chapter. Hardback, 272 pages, 505 colour photos. **Price: £49.50**

A comprehensive range of Slot Machine, Jukebox and Pinball books can be purchased in the 'Library' on the pennymachines website

All prices include UK p&p.

Cheques to:

David Lavender

50 Charlemont Road, Walsall, West midlands WS5 3NQ

Or order online at www.pennymachines.co.uk

Classic Amusements

The only licensed dealer in vintage slot machines

*I have just returned from a buying trip to the Chicago Show,
and have returned with many interesting items, including:*

Several rare wall machines

Lots of Mutoscope reels

Some two player games

Shockers, lung testers and grippers

If you are after anything specific, please email me your wants list.

* * * * *

I am always looking for rare items in this country, especially:

Buckley Bones or Bally Reliance

£3000 paid for nice example of either.

Also wanted:

Cast iron vending machines of any type

Caille Aristocrat or Little Roulette

Also urgently required: Bollands cast iron Oracle

For all your buying and selling needs

Talk to me first!

Simon 01425 462164

Email: pennyslot@aol.com

www.classicamusements.com

Gambling Commission License number GBD/99/3916/1